



Leave of Absence and Holiday in Term Time Guidance for Pupils

Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Head Teachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

The new law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must be in exceptional circumstances and the Head Teacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave.

Parents can be fined for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school and where attendance has not been 'regular'.

Penalty Notices

Section 23 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 empowers designated LA Officers, Head Teachers (and Deputy Head Teachers authorised by them) and the Police to issue Penalty Notices in cases of unauthorised absence from school.

The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) Regulations 2004 came into force on 27th February 2004.

Bury Authority does monitor attendance and pursue penalty notices for unauthorised absences, in order to maintain good attendance in schools and in the authority.